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DECLASSIFICATION DATE 12/9/77

INFO: **USMR BERLIN**PER *W. H. HARRIS* OFFICE *SW*FADRC FOI CASE NO. 710569
Canine

Assume that in conformity Secretary's report to NATO Council on decisions Foreign Ministers/all NATO countries actively engaged in presenting Western position on Berlin issue to their own publics through issuance appropriate statements, speeches by key government officials, etc.

Believe most recent actions East German regime resulting in virtually complete severance of communications between Soviet Sector of Berlin and West Berlin introduces new element in Berlin situation which can and should be exploited by West to fullest. It is our belief that all NATO countries should utilize all information media and other channels influence at their disposal to direct attention audiences outside NATO area, particularly in neutral countries, to recent developments East Berlin.

In presenting complete factual account of East Berlin developments media should highlight harsh effects these actions in human terms (i.e. separation of families, denial fundamental human rights of association, choice of place of employment, cutting off of means of support for over 50,000 East Berliners etc.). Obvious conclusion should be underscored that flow of refugees to West (over 2.5 million since 1949) which has

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1st

Dated: 8/16/61
RUC:GER:RUC:GermansTelegraphic transmission and distribution approved by: *PMH* - Fay D. Kohler

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now culminated in closing of Soviet Sector border is dramatic demonstration complete bankruptcy so-called GDR German Democratic Republic and clear proof lack popular support for regime. For additional points to be stressed see FOROMAC CABLE No. 172.

Supplementing action NATO governments THIS will exploit contacts with intellectuals, editors, publishers, labor leaders and other opinion holding groups in non-NATO countries with view increasing awareness Berlin developments and, where appropriate, eliciting useful public statements, petitions, etc., protesting actions East German regime taken with Soviet support and approval.

FOR USRO: Aside from bilateral discussions underway between U.S. and some of addressee countries, believe useful for FREEH REP raise in Council desirability maximum exploitation East Berlin developments by NATO countries.

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